

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-13 are pending before this amendment. By the present amendment, claims 1 and 3-13 are amended and claim 22 is added. Support for the amendments may be found, e.g., in page 13, line 20-28 of the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

In the office action (page 4), claims 1 and 3-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,272,631 (Thomlinson) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,717,376 (Lys).

The applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the claims, as they now stand, are in condition for allowance.

The applicants respectfully submit that each of Thomlinson and Lys fails to disclose or teach the technical solution as recited in the amended claim 1.

Independent claim 1, as amended, is directed to a method for realizing algorithms storage by means of a removable semiconductor memory device, wherein the method further comprises steps 1) to 5) when realizing legal software protection through the stored algorithms.

Specifically, as recited in amended claim 1, the controller module may execute an algorithm according to input data (algorithm invoking instruction sent by the host in which the legal software is store) from the universal interface. The algorithm corresponding to a parameter of the algorithm invoking instruction can be loaded by the controller module, and then be executed in the controller module. A result of operation (notice of algorithm invoking operation success) is transmitted via the universal interface. Accordingly, in the method recited in the amended claim 1, data can be transmitted between the host and the removable semiconductor memory device.

However, Thomlinson or Lys fails to disclose or teach the above process for protecting the legal software by means of the algorithms stored in the removable semiconductor memory device. Specifically, neither Thomlinson nor Lys hint at data transmission between the host and the removable semiconductor memory device. For example, according to Lys, the algorithms should be built-in algorithms rather than the

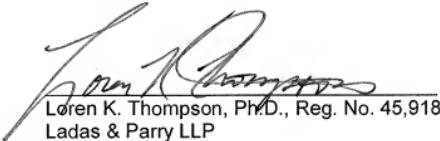
self-defined algorithms as recited in the amended claim 1.

In light of the above, the applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Thomlinson and further in view of Lys. As such, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-13 and 22 are also patentable over Thomlinson and further in view of Lys for at least the reason that they depend upon claim 1.

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-13, and 22 now pending in this application, are in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the office action. Should the examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,



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